



## 84TH OVERHOLSER FAMILY ASSOCIATION REUNION

The 84th Overholser Family Association Reunion will be held Saturday, August 28 at the Terre Hill Fire Hall, Terre Hill, PA.

Plan to get there around 10:30 for registration and to greet old and new friends. At noon we will have a covered-dish lunch consisting of the usual tasty dishes brought by those attending. Please bring a hot or cold dish for the buffet table and your own drink and tableware. If you are traveling a distance, we will furnish the food, etc.

After lunch, those present will introduce themselves and then we will go outside to have the Reunion picture taken by Chuck Carroll.

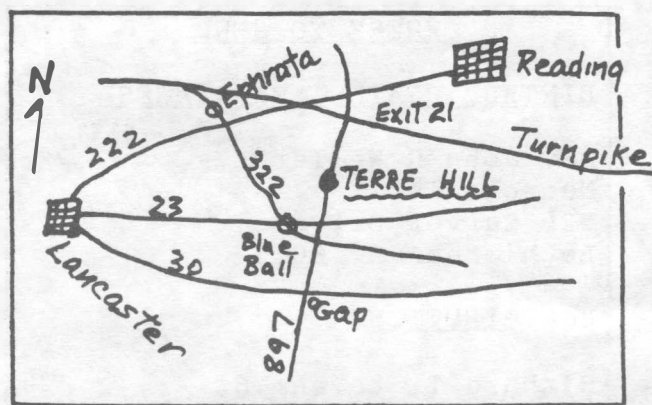
A brief business meeting will follow, presided over by President Chuck Carroll with reports by the secretary, necrologist, treasurer and the book committee.

There will be plenty of time for exchanging information on family lines and checking various books. We have experts who are more than willing to help if you are "stuck" on your family.

Of interest in the area are the Weaverland Mennonite and Terre Hill Cemeteries. Also, two of III Martin Oberholtzer's houses are nearby. Ask Spencer Overholser to direct you to them.

Parents of small children are reminded that there is a community playground just below the fire hall that their offspring might enjoy. Plan to bring balls and bats or other game paraphernalia.

We hope to see you August 28th.



See specific directions on page 10

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Judith A Chubin  
Glenview IL  
Mike Drudge  
Gallatin TN  
Ruth E Ingham  
Pottstown PA  
Theresa Janczak  
Conroe TX  
Gene F Rak  
Baton Rouge LA  
Jodi O Ring  
Plymouth MI  
Mary H Wagner  
South Charleston WV

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION ARE NOT ONLY APPRECIATED BUT NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE COST OF PRINTING AND MAILING THE BULLETIN. HAVE YOU SENT YOUR CONTRIBUTION FOR 1993?

OVERHOLSER FAMILY  
ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

Vol. XV No. 2 August 1993

Editor - Barbara B Ford  
313 Henry Lane  
Wallingford, PA 19086

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holser Family Association,  
413 Appletree Rd, Camp Hill  
PA 17011

If for any reason, you do not  
wish to receive the BULLETIN,  
please let us know.

WHERE TO SEND

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES

Rev John R Weiler  
Necrologist  
325 Carver Drive  
Bethlehem PA 18017

CONTRIBUTIONS

Richard I Stevens Sr  
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Lititz PA 17543

(Note: THE BULLETIN is  
financed solely by voluntary  
contributions of the members)

ALL OTHER CORRESPONDENCE, IN-  
CLUDING CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Barbara B Ford  
313 Henry Lane  
Wallingford PA 19086

NECROLOGIST REPORT 8/1993

BIRTHS

Vera Charlotte Hinsey 11/27/1991 d/o Norman & Cynthia Hinsey  
of New York City  
(IV Daniel Overholser & Anna Landis line)

Carrie Jo & Cayley Rose Haselden 3/19/1993 Norfolk VA,  
daughters of John & Jacquelin Joan Haselden  
(Abraham Whitmore Overholser & Barbara Brubaker line)

MARRIAGES

John H Haselden Jr mar 11/28/1991 Jacquelin Joan Sthole in  
Rock Hill SC  
(Abraham Whitmore Overholser & Barbara-Brubaker line)

DEATHS

Richard C Lare 11/16/1918-9/19/1991. Survived by wife Phyllis  
(Pressel) Lare and three children  
(Marcus Oberholtzer-Martin Oberholtzer/Esther Fretz line)

Rex Eugene Crom 3/17/1927-8/6/1991. Survived by wife Jean  
(Howe) Crom, 3 children and 5 grandchildren  
(Marcus Oberholtzer-Martin Oberholtzer/Esther Fretz line)

Dorothy Hursh Vendrely of Spencerville IN d 3/13/1993, sister  
of Kathryn Hursh Dean  
(Jacob Oberholtzer & Catharina Bachman line)

Correction to the 2/1993 report  
Alva F Howell of Arbela MO died 6/2/1992, not 12/15/1992

John R Weiler, Necrologist

MORE THAN A PENNY SAVED

I use over 2000 sheets of computer paper a year and I  
always have my eyes open for a bargain. I found a real one  
recently when I purchased 2500 sheets for \$12.99. The sales  
slip said that I had saved \$36.96 and that doesn't include  
the Pennsylvania 6% sales tax!

When you are moving, please remember to send your new  
address to the editor so the mailing list can be changed.  
The Post Office will not forward the BULLETIN so they are  
returned to the Camp Hill address with \$.29 postage due and  
then Jim Kehew returns them to me to make new address labels  
out. Therefore, we have the cost of the original mailing  
and then it runs a total of \$.87 to get it off again. It all  
adds up when you figure how many are returned, so keep the  
OFA in mind when you change your address.

### BOOK PROGRESS REPORT

The February BULLETIN reported that our Association authorized the formation of a Book Committee to write, fund and publish a foundation genealogy history book on the first four or five generations of all of our various Overholser/Oberholtzer/Overholt immigrants and those who haven't been connected to an immigrant.

As of June 1st, I'm pleased to report great progress. We have selected an ancestor numbering system which will allow each past, present and future "Overholser" to have their own separate identification number. A page style format has been developed and some of the lines have been completed. Special thanks goes to our Association Genealogist Barbara Ford who has been working nearly fulltime on the book text. We have narrowed down a long list of possible publishers to three. \$3817.00 of the \$10,000 needed for publication has been received.

Many thanks to our members who have already sent in book orders, and special thanks to the following who have made loans or contributions:

Mildred O Poley  
Spencer/Ruth Overholser  
Will Overholtzer  
Carol Boyer  
Harold Kilheffer  
Dorothy McLean

Barbara Ford  
Bob/Jane Elliott  
Harry/Gloria Overholtzer  
Walter Knauff  
Lewis/Anna May Schrack

Additional contributions, large or small, are requested from those who can afford to make them. Loans in increments of \$250 are also requested. Loans will be repaid from first available profits from book sales. One free book will be given out for each \$250 increment of contribution or loan amount received.

For those of you who have not yet done so, won't you please help by sending in a loan, contribution and/or placing a book order today. We desperately need your support now!

Address your orders, loans or contributions to:

Overholser Family Association  
c/o Will Overholtzer  
2440 El Pavo Way  
Rancho Cordova CA 95670

The discount pre-publication book price is \$24 (add \$2.50 shipping and handling and \$1.44 PA state tax where applicable) Questions? Phone 916-366-1443

Will Overholtzer

(See page 4 for list of Immigrants and others to be included in the book.)

IMMIGRANTS AND OTHERS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE OBERHOLTZER BOOK

IMMIGRANTS TO PENNSYLVANIA

1710 Immigrant Marcus Oberholtzer c1664-1726 Chester Co PA  
1717/19? Immigrant Jacob Oberholtzer d 1755 Franconia, Montgy  
1727 Immigrant Samuel Oberholtzer d 1748 Lancaster Co  
1730 Immigrant Hans Jacob Oberholtzer d 1771 Hatfield, Montgy  
1732 Immigrant Jacob Oberholtzer c1704-1755 Brecknock, Lanc.

NOT CONNECTED TO AN IMMIGRANT

Abraham Overholser c1740?-1798 Woodbury Twp, Bedford Co  
m Catherine \_\_\_\_\_  
Abraham Overholtzer 1761-1831 Springfield Twp, Bucks Co  
m1 Johanna Dirstein, m2 Mary Funk  
Christian Oberholtzer d 1789 Hempfield Twp, Lancaster Co  
m "Magdalena" (Witmer) Eshleman  
David Overholt c1780-1857 Doylestown, Bucks Co  
m Agnes Godshalk  
Henry Overholt  
m Sarah \_\_\_\_\_ 1799-1835 Bur Homer Cemetery, Licking Co OH  
Henry Overholser b c1772 York Co?  
m Catharine Peterson (son Christian 1795-1875 Fairview Twp)  
Jacob Oberholtzer 1741-1811 Colebrookdale Twp, Berks Co  
m Esther Bliem  
Jacob Oberholtzer 1767-1847 Ashland Co OH  
m1 Catharina Bachman, m2 Elizabeth Mellinger  
Jacob Overholser 1801 Germany-Indiana (Virgie Walker's)  
m Elizabeth Longnecker  
John Overholser c1740-1809 Reading Twp, Adams Co  
m Mary Chronister  
John Overholser 1764-1842 Montgy Co OH (from Somerset Co PA)  
m Susanna (Stutzman?)  
John Overholser 1782-1828 Juniata Co  
m1 Frances Coffman, m2 Mary Walter  
Martin Oberholtzer c1733-1815 Bethel Twp, Lebanon Co  
m Anna Frantz (with possible link to 1710 Martin Oberholtzer)  
Abraham Overholser d 1803/4 VA  
m Anna Whitmore (children to Preble Co OH)  
Marcus Oberholtzer b c1760-d Rockingham Co VA  
m Margaret Armentrout  
Christian Overholtser d 1828 Giles Co VA  
m Catherine Fizer  
Abraham Overholt 1746-1840 Thorold Twp, Lincoln Co, Ontario  
m Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_  
Benjamin Overholser 1806-1847 Welland Co, Ontario, Canada  
m1 Elizabeth Miller, m2 Mary Lehman  
Isaac Overholt c1746-1825 Louth, Lincoln Co Ontario, Canada

A few of the not connected to an immigrant may only have a few generations or what information we have available. Also included will be others with what facts we have. There will be 14 not connected Oberholtzer females and their families.

JOHN OVERHOLT OF TINICUM TWP, BUCKS CO

John Overholt is known as Tory John because of his allegiance to the British in the Revolutionary War. Of the 121 persons who had their land confiscated by Pennsylvania, John was the only Overholt. His 235 acres in Tinicum Twp, Bucks Co, which included a grist mill, were confiscated by the Pennsylvania government after he was adjudged guilty of High Treason. It was sold 6/18/1781 for \$1200 to Jacob Benner of Moreland, Phila. Co. His inventory was appraised at \$2838 but his personal estate only brought \$546 when sold, the big difference was a weavers loom appraised for \$2400 which sold for \$200.

John's wife Elizabeth, who in 1780 petitioned the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania asking for support from the estate which was sold, said that she was destitute with a 10 yr old child who was weak and sickly. She claimed that she had a petition earlier for the court she had intrusted to her eldest son Abraham who "through ignorance or neglect, delayed the delivery". She further stated that because of sickness and distress, she was unable to labour for her support and that her husband died before the day appointed to render himself for trial.

Son Abraham Overholt got himself in trouble. A notice in the Pennsylvania Gazette 5/9/1787 said "Twenty dollars reward. Made his escape on the night of the 28th, on the road to Newtown gaol, a certain man named Abraham Overholt, about 5 ft 8 or 9 in high, a well fat full faced fellow, appears to be about 30 yrs of age, with fair hair, a white flannel shirt & trousers, waist coat, the back parts of buckskin which appears blue, the front parts of brown worsted. Was committed on suspicion of horse stealing." Abraham then went to Canada in 1787 with his wife Charlotte Hiltz where he died. His will, written 1/4/1813 was probated in Louth Twn, Lincoln Co, Upper Canada and mentions his brother John and sister Sally. Abraham & Charlotte had no children but after Charlotte remarried in 1819 Samuel T Moyer, she had 6 sons. It is said that Abraham was shot by the Indians with 16 bullets at Stony Creek for insulting a squaw to whom he was trying to sell fish.

The Canadian Federal Archives in Ottawa has the original petition filed by Abraham Overholt on behalf of his mother Widow Obenholt on 8/27/1787. It was a claim of his father's estate saying that "his father John of Bucks Co aided the British all he could and joined them in New York in the year 1780. He had been active in assisting the British officers get across the Delaware and that this being known, he was obliged to fly. He had been committed for High Treason, broke gaol and got to New York where he died 1780. John's widow was living in Bucks Co and son John, age about 16, was in the colonies. Abraham stated that he had been active in carrying some of the soldiers who were taken prisoners under Burgoyne and that he went to New York once or twice on this business to carry in prisoners. His father had a farm, grist

mill, 2 houses and 2 barns, with his estate valued at 1100 Pennsylvania currency." There is no further information on John Overholt b c1770.

On 12/7/1787 the Loyalist Commissioners rejected the claim with the judgement that he was no Loyalist. It stated that John Obenholt never joined the British Army during the War and that his representatives continued inhabitants of the United States. Observation was that claimant (Elizabeth Obenholt) was an inhabitant of the United States.

In researching Bucks Co deeds I found Isaac Overholt who had married Mary Younkin and decided to check the Younkins since I wasn't aware of this marriage. The Younkin research showed a Wyker family which turned up a Killian family. Mary Younkin Overholt was the d/o Abraham Younkin and Elizabeth Wyker, grand daughter of Henry & Elizabeth Killian and Nicholas Wýker & Susanna Killian. Nicholas Wyker came 9/16/1748 on the PATIENCE and the Killians came 11/30/1730 on the JOYCE. The 1st gristmill in Tinicum Twp, Bucks Co was built by Henry Killian c1740 upon Tinicum Creek over which 2 dams were constructed. Henry took up 500 acres of land from the London Co for &25 of sterling and he gave some of it to his son-in-law John Overholt who became a Tory and had the land confiscated. Jacob Benner who bought the 235 acres sold it to Colonel Arthur Erwin in 1789. Col. Erwin was assassinated while serving in the State Assembly in 1790 and his estate sold the land 1796 to George Wyker (1766-1850) which brought the land back in the family as George was the grandson of Henry & Elizabeth Killian.

In her petition to the Supreme Court, Elizabeth Overholt said "my husband by certain writings on 4/1763 conveyed to Henry Killian and Elizabeth his wife 44 acres, part of his said estate during their natural life." Elizabeth Overholt was the executrix and legatee of Elizabeth Killian with power of attorney to Nicholas Wyker 4/24/1792" No further information has been found on this estate.

Nicholas Wyker m 1757 Susanna Killian b 5/29/1736 at the St Michaels & Zion Church, Philadelphia. Elizabeth Killian Overholt, her sister, was probably born 1734-1738.

Unless John Overholt (b c1770), s/o Tory John, had a family this line ends. There is no information on sister Sally. Who were the parents of Tory John Overholt?

#### References-

- Penna. Genealogical Magazine 1978, Vol 30/237-239
- Opponents of the Revolution Whose Estates Were Confiscated, Anne M Ousterhout, Ph.D.
- Battle, J H, History of Bucks Co 1887 p 684, p 1141
- Fretz, Rev A J, Christian & Hans Meyer p 249
- Bucks Co Deed Book 41/280, 29/270, 26/8
- Bucks Co Orphans Court Bk 2/241, 5/1805
- PA Archives Ser 4 Vol 3, Ser 6 Vol 12, Vol 13-see index
- Pennsylvania Gazette Vol 22/79, Vol 24/365
- John L Overholt, Kilmarnock VA
- John A M Overholt, Surrey England-copy of 1787 original petition from Canadian Federal Archives in Ottawa

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Our deep appreciation to these members who have contributed to the OFA since the last BULLETIN.

Milton/Neva Blanding Stanton MI	Phyllis J Lare Holland MI
Juanita O Brown Cookeville TN	Helen S Nightengale Renton WA
Margaret Campbell Edmond OK	Eva M Nolt Versailles MO
Shelly Chapman Kahoka MO	John/Rebecca Oberholtzer Leola PA
Jean E Crom Beatrice NE	Mildred O Poley Souderton PA
Mike Drudge Gallatin TN	Gene F Rak Baton Rouge LA
Ann Duke Owensboro KY	Jodi O Ring Plymouth MI
Sue O Field Zionsville IN	James/Ruth Runyon Reading PA
Janet R Goodrich Cashiers NC	Sarah Ann Stauffer Roherstown PA
Beverly Holstad Miles City MT	Jennie R Sperling Lansdale PA
Ruth E Ingham Pottstown PA	Lawrence/Emogean Stevens Clearfield PA
Theresa Janczak Conroe TX	Gladys Taylor Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
Jo Ann L Kester Tipp City OH	William/Mary Wagner South Charleston WV
Harold/Nora Mae Kilheffer Lancaster PA	Virgie M Walker Wilmington OH

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FINDING A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK

Alva Maughan of Mesa AZ wrote saying that she was looking for information on her gr gr grandmother Frances Overholser who was born 12/1839 in Ohio with her parents born in PA. She had married 1859 Barnett Beers and they lived in Whiteside IL. A bell rang and I went to my "Billie Jo Read" file because she had Overholsters in that area and has shared all her material with the Association. There was a chart on the Beers family and I was able to take Alva back to Marcus Oberholtzer which proves that you can find a needle in a haystack! She had seen the name of the Association in the Genealogical Helper and with only a birth year and state where her great great grandmother was born she decided to see if we could help her.

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### NAME CHANGES

Jim Kehew, our former editor, sent some interesting information concerning name changes in his family. His father had told the family that some of his New England relatives were seamen or captains and when they met another craft they would yell across the water the name of their ship, where they were bound, and the master's name. Kehew was too unusual a name to transmit easily that way so he said some of them changed their names to Appleby or Appleton. Jim and his 2 brothers have hired a researcher in New Hampshire to work on the Kehew family and she came up with proof that some in the family did change their name in a record found in Massachusetts. On June 23, 1831 George B Kehew took the name of George B Appleton and later Samuel Becket Kehew of Salem took the name of Samuel K Appleton. These are probably relatives of Jim's but not direct since the Kehew name was never changed in his line. In the same article, there is Elizabeth Hale Rowell who took the name Elizabeth Hale and her four minor children also took the name Hale. This is mentioned so that in researching a family, you might want to see if the children took their mother's maiden name after a possible divorce. Another name change that would certainly confuse a researcher is William Sewall Murphy, minor s/o widow Sarah L Pool, who took the name William Sewall.

By the way, Jim Kehew has retired as Executive Director of the Bicycling Federation of PA after 6 years. He is trying to catch up on everything he missed during those years and has a long list of things he wants to do, one being going through endless piles of accumulated papers in his den which should make his wife happy!

Jim, his wife Es, daughter Peggy and her family took a 4 day bike trek along 61 miles of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal which runs from Cumberland MD to Washington DC. One day Jim and Es got separated from the rest and wound up riding through waist-high poison ivy for a mile or so with results that stayed with them for some time to come!

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### "HISTORY COMES ALIVE" IN THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES

The Bucks Co Genealogical Society will hold their Second Annual Family Ancestry Fair Sept 25th 9-6 and Sept 26th 10-5 at the Delaware Valley College of Science & Agriculture, Rt 202, Doylestown PA. There will be lectures, charts, forms, hand-outs, door prizes, books, book dealers and much more. Admission is free. For further information contact the Fair Committee, Bucks Co Genealogical Soc. Box 1092, Doylestown PA 18901.



FAMILY TRADITION-PROCEED WITH CAUTION

For many years we have been trying to find the parents of Abraham Oberholtzer of Upper Paxton Twp, Dauphin Co. In a letter written to Rev I E Oberholtzer in 1926, a descendant said that he was born and raised in Upper Paxton. From the census records, I found that he was born c1797 and had a brother Daniel born c1790. After piecing together his family in Upper Paxton, I put them in the "parents unknown" file until I ran across a deed in Bucks Co that solved the problem. The deed dated 5/27/1852 was from Daniel Oberholtzer, a clockmaker in Upper Paxton, Dauphin Co to Clarissa Overholtzer. That is when I remembered Daniel and Abraham Oberholtzer who seemed to disappear from Montgomery Co before the 1850 census. The tax records showed they paid their last taxes in Hatfield Twp 1843 and in 1844 they paid taxes in Upper Paxton. Daniel Oberholtzer was a clockmaker and watchmaker and the occupation showed up on the tax list which made it easy to identify him. The brothers were the "missing" children of Isaac Oberholtzer and Elizabeth Schlichter of the Hatfield Oberholtzers.

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SAMUEL OBERHOLTZER, 1727 IMMIGRANT, LANCASTER CO PA  
IV JACOB OBERHOLTZER 1805-1865 S/O III SAMUEL

Warwick Taunship, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Jacob Oberholtzer, 1st zur Welt geboren im Jahr Christi den 4ten February 1805.

Susanna Bollinger 1st zur Welt gebroen im Jahr Christi 1811 den 29ten May.

Heydelberg Taunship, Lebanon County im Jahr 1830 den 21sten September 1st uns eine dochter geboren mit namen Elizabeth Oberholtzer dinstags im zeigen des Scorbions.

Im Jahr 1832 den 12ten September 1st uns eine Tochter geboren mit namen. Anna Oberholtzer. MittWoches in zeigen der Widders.

Im Jahr 1835 den 29ten April 1st eine Tochter geboren mit namen Susanna Oberholtzer Am Ostersonntag im zeigen des Steinbock.

Im Jahr 1836 den 25ten September 1st uns eine Tochter geboren mit namen Abraham L Oberholtzer im zeigen des Widders.

Im Jahr 1844 den 19ten April 1st uns eine Tochter geboren mit namen Catharina Oberholtzer freytags im zeigen des Stiers.

Im Jahr 1848 den 13ten November 1st uns eine Tochter geboren mit namen Lydia Oberholtzer im zeigen der zwillinge.

Im Jahr 1851 den 23ten November 1st uns aaron O. geibbel geboren sonntags um zehen uhr vormitags im schitz.

A record in the OFA files-no source. Many of our members can translate this easily.

OFFICERS

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Necrologist Bethlehem, PA 18017

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**HOW TO GET TO THE REUNION**

Terre Hill is a town of 1,200 located in the Pennsylvania Dutch country of Lancaster County, midway between Lancaster and Reading. The Fire Hall is on the main street, with plenty of parking at the rear.

From Lancaster: 15 mi NE via Rts 222, 23, 897  
From Reading: 15 mi SW via Rts 222, 897  
From Gap on Rt 30: 15 mi N via Rt 897  
From Exit 21 (Reading), PA Turnpike: 5 mi S via Rt 897

Many motels are in the area with Ephrata and New Holland nearby.

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**Overholser Family Association**  
413 Appletree Road  
Camp Hill, Pa. 17011

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U.S. Postage  
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